

GENERAL INFORMATION

CHANGES TO HUNTING AND TRAPPING

1. Crossbows - The use of crossbows is now permitted during all seasons including the regular archery season.
2. Young Sportsman Hunts - Expanded the definition of a youth hunter. Youth hunters are now defined as young sportsmen 6-16 years of age. When participating on a Young Sportsman hunt, youths must be accompanied by a non-hunting adult, 21 years of age or older, who must remain in a position to take immediate control of the hunting device and who must also comply with fluorescent orange regulations, as specified for legal hunters. The minimum age for youth hunting on any Young Sportsman hunt or on WMAs is 6 years of age.
3. Youth Hunting on WMAs - When participating on all other hunts (big game, small game, and waterfowl), young sportsman, ages 6-16 only, must be accompanied by an adult (who may hunt), 21 years of age or older, who must remain in a position to take immediate control of the hunting device and who must also comply with fluorescent orange regulations, as specified for legal hunters. The minimum age for youth hunting on any Young Sportsman hunt or on WMAs is 6 years of age.
4. Spring Turkey - Seasonal Bag Limit: The seasonal bag limit shall be one bearded turkey per day, not to exceed four per season, only two of which may come from a WMA. All birds taken off of WMA Quota hunts shall be considered "bonus" birds.
5. Bears - Bears may be whole or field dressed but must weigh a minimum of 75 pounds when taken to an official TWRA bear check station.
6. Tagging Requirements - If additional animals are to be harvested on that calendar day, the hunter is not required to stop hunting and tag the animal until he/she is ready to move, transport, or field dress the animal.
7. Raccoon - The bag limit for raccoon hunting in East Tennessee is 2 raccoons per hunter per night (page 8).



Chronic Wasting Disease, otherwise known as CWD, is a transmissible, neurological disease of deer and elk that produces small lesions in brains of infected animals. It is characterized by loss of body condition, behavioral abnormalities and death. CWD is classified as a transmissible spongiform encephalopathy (TSE), and is similar to mad cow disease in cattle and scrapie in sheep.

While the possibility of human infection remains a concern, it is important to note there have been no verified cases of humans contracting CWD.

Stop The Spread Of Chronic Wasting Disease!

New Carcass Importation Laws Are Now In Effect.

CWD has NOT yet been found in Tennessee and does not pose a risk to human health. Should CWD ever be discovered in Tennessee it will *absolutely* have an affect on the way we manage our white-tailed deer herd.

Therefore...

If you plan on hunting cervids (deer or elk) in the following states or provinces, you must properly prepare the carcass BEFORE transporting it into Tennessee.

Colorado	Illinois*	Kansas	Minnesota	Montana
Nebraska	New Mexico	New York	Oklahoma	South Dakota
Utah	West Virginia	Wisconsin	Wyoming	Alberta
Saskatchewan				

*That portion north of Interstate 80

Carcasses and other parts from these areas that may be brought into or possessed in Tennessee include:

- a) meat that has bones removed
- b) meat that has no portion of the spinal column or head attached
- c) antlers, antlers attached to cleaned skull plates or cleaned skulls (where no meat or tissues are attached to the skull)
- d) cleaned teeth
- e) finished taxidermy and antler products
- f) hides and tanned products.

Failure to comply with the above will be in violation of Tennessee law!